Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

Original Upda	ated Corrected	Supplemental				
LRB Number 05-2688/3	Introduction Number A	B-585				
Subject						
Sales tax rebate on energy efficient equi	ipment					
Fiscal Effect						
State: No State Fiscal Effect Indeterminate Increase Existing Appropriations Decrease Existing Appropriations Create New Appropriations	☐ Increase Existing Revenues ☐ Decrease Existing Revenues ☐ X Yes ☐ Decrease Costs	agency's budget				
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory School Districts School Districts						
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations						
GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOR 8/4/2005

LRB Number 05-2688/3	Introduction Number	AB-585	Estimate Type	Original		
Subject						
Sales tax rebate on energy efficient equipment						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill exempts from sales and use tax the sale, storage or use of equipment that satisfies the energy efficiency guidelines established by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Department of Energy under the Energy Star program. The exemption under the bill applies to energy efficient equipment including air conditioners, dehumidifiers, furnaces, boilers, refrigerators, freezers, and clothes washers but not including televisions, audio equipment, and other consumer electronics. The amount of taxes that may be claimed as an exemption may not exceed \$1,000 per item.

The \$1,000 limit on the exemption means that items costing up to \$20,000 (\$1,000/5%) would be exempt from state sales and use taxes, items costing up to \$200,000 (\$1,000/0.5%) would be exempt from county and football stadium taxes, and items costing up to \$1,000,000 (\$1,000/0.1%) would be exempt from baseball park taxes. Although the cost of boilers and furnaces for certain buildings may exceed \$20,000, much of such equipment would be exempt manufacturing or electric utility equipment under current law. Other items exempted by the bill are typically well below the \$20,000 threshold. For these reasons, the \$1,000 limit does not affect the fiscal estimate of the decrease in sales taxes under the bill.

Based on Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers historical and forecast numbers of units sold of room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, freezers, and clothes washers, and prices of such items obtained from the Internet, total sales of these products were estimated. The attachment shows numbers of units sold, prices, and other data for 2006 and assumptions regarding these products and the fiscal estimate. Sales of boilers and furnaces were estimated from 2002 Economic Census data on heating and HVAC units.

The Wisconsin Department of Administration reported that about 42% of clothes washers sold in this state were Energy Star qualified and it is assumed that 25% of the other products exempted under the bill would be Energy Star qualified. Based on these data and assumptions, state sales and use taxes would decrease \$4.4 million in FY06 and \$4.6 million in FY07.

County and stadium taxes were 7.75% of state sales taxes in 2004. Assuming this percentage does not change, county and stadium sales and use taxes would decrease by \$400,000 in FY06 and FY07.

Administrative costs of the bill are minimal and would be absorbed by the Department.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

ATTACHMENT: 2005 AB 585

Appliance Sales and Price Estimates, 2006

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Product	Room Air Conditioners	Dehumidifiers	Refrigerators	Freezers	Clothes Washers
US Annual Sales (units)	7,400,000	1,326,000	11,246,000	2,514,000	9,111,000
Energy Star % of US Sales	25%	25%	25%	25%	42%
Energy Star Price	\$240	\$200	\$1,200	\$800	\$750
State Sales Taxes (FY06)	\$393,000	\$60,000	\$298,000	\$446,000	\$2,533,000

Assumptions:

Wisconsin accounts for 1.8% of US sales.

95% compliance rate.

Economic Census data regarding furnaces and HVAC not shown. Exempting furnaces and HVACs would decrease sales taxes by \$0.7 million in FY06.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2005 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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DOR/ Blair Kruger (608) 266-1310 Paul Zie				aui Ziegier (6	608) 266-5773		8/4/2005